

8 Apr 217

Martialis had a private quarrel against Coracalla. His brother had been executed a few days earlier on a charge which had not been proved. Macrinus and Martialis were both included in the party which accompanied Coracalla on 8 Apr from Edessa to CARPHAE. The emperor had a stomach upset and ordered a halt while he went to relieve himself. A single attendant went with Coracalla; the rest of his guard turned their backs for respect of the emperor's privacy. Martialis snarled

forward and killed Caracalla with a single sword thrust while he was lowering his breeches.

The Assassin took to horse & fled, but one of Caracalla's mounted bodyguard brought him down with a pike. Macrinus, meanwhile, feigned innocence, concealing the emperor's death with the rest. The body of Caracalla was duly cremated, and the ashes sent to Julia Domna in Antioch. He was only 29. The man was carried back to Rome, and laid in the Mausoleum of Hadrian. The ashes of Julia Domna a few weeks later. Some months later were deified by ELAGABALUS.

217 A.D.

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After a renaissance of Olympic  
games in 2nd century AD. (100-200)  
and after the games of 217  
interest in the games steadily  
declined